FILED

JANICE K. BREWER
SECRETARY OF STATE

State of Arizona Senate Forty-eighth Legislature Second Regular Session 2008

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 1041

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ON THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE EVAN MECHAM.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

- 1 -

 The Honorable Evan Mecham died on February 21, 2008 at the age of eighty-three.

Born on May 12, 1924 in Duchesne, Utah, Evan Mecham was one of six children of Adelbert and Ina Mecham. He grew up on a country farm, the youngest of five sons. He enlisted in the United States Army Air Forces at the age of eighteen and eventually earned his pilot's license. He flew photo reconnaissance and fighter escort missions over Europe during World War II. On March 7, 1945, he was shot down over Germany and was held as a prisoner of war until liberated by General Patton's army shortly before the war ended in Europe. Evan Mecham returned home and married his high school sweetheart, Florence Lambert, on June 11, 1945 at the LDS temple in Salt Lake City.

Evan Mecham successfully operated a Pontiac agency in Ajo, Arizona before moving the franchise to Glendale in 1954. He distinguished himself as a successful businessman and automobile dealer before being elected to the Arizona Senate in 1960 where he served one term. He published his own newspaper, the Evening American, from 1963 to 1973, and in 1986 he was elected as Governor of Arizona. During his term, he was successful in his efforts to stop tax increases, reestablish the Arizona Department of Weights and Measures, reform the civil court system and expand the state's health care program for the poor to provide long-term care for elderly and disabled individuals. He was also instrumental in uniting the nation's governors to urge Congress to repeal the 55 mph speed limit. Though his tenure was fraught with controversy, Evan Mecham met the challenges of adversity head on and remained committed to his unwavering beliefs in states' rights and personal freedoms.

Following his departure from politics, Evan Mecham wrote several books. He gave freely of his time, energy and efforts in numerous capacities in the LDS church, including such positions as bishop, high counselor, gospel doctrine teacher and home teacher.

Dedicated to his family, Evan Mecham will be greatly missed by his wife of sixty-two years, Florence, his children, Suzanne, Dennis, Christine, Eric, Teresa, Kyle and Lance, his brothers, Wayne, Willard and Arnold, his sister, Jean, and his twenty-nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Therefore

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the Members of the Legislature express regret at the death of the Honorable Evan Mecham and extend their deepest condolences to his surviving family members.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE MARCH 17, 2008.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED BY THE SENATE MARCH 13, 2008.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE MARCH 20, 2008.

- 1 -

READ IN FULL AND UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

Passed the House March 17, 20 08

Speaker, of the House fro Tempore

Moore
Chief Clerk of the House

READ IN FULL AND UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

Passed the Senate V No 12, 20 08

President of the Senate

Secretary of the Senate

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE

This Bill was received by the Secretary of State

this <u>20</u> day of <u>March</u>, 20<u>08</u>

at 8:10 o'clock $A \cdot M$

Secretary of State

S.C.R. 1041